DAN BISHOP NORTH CAROLINA 9TH DISTRICT

Washington Office 1207 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-1976

> HISTORIC UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE DISTRICT OFFICE 300 N Main St. Monroe, NC 28112 (704) 218-5300

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3309

February 24, 2021

Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law
Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet
Committee on Homeland Security
Border Security, Facilitation, and Operations
Oversight, Management, and Accountability

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Honorable Christopher Wray Director Federal Bureau of Investigation 935 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Wray,

As our nation faces a growing security threat from the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) attempts to infiltrate and undermine the United States Government, we write to request a full briefing regarding counterintelligence threats to Members of Congress, including information related to Representative Eric Swalwell's ties to a suspected Chinese intelligence operative. As you are aware, public reporting indicates that between 2011 and 2015, Rep. Swalwell was among a group of Members who were targeted by Christine Fang, an individual now reasonably suspected to be an intelligence operative for the Chinese government¹. In light of Fang's infiltration of Rep. Swalwell's inner circle, we believe Members of Congress must know the full extent of the CCP's efforts to target Members of Congress.

This potential breach of our national security is especially concerning due to Rep. Swalwell's position as a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, where Members have access to our nation's most sensitive classified information. This includes information classified as Top Secret, which by its very nature "could reasonably be expected to cause *exceptionally grave* damage to the national security" if subject to unauthorized disclosure.

Members of Congress must understand the threats we now face and the extent of damage already done. In fact, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) December 18, 2020, classified briefing for Speaker Pelosi and Republican Leader McCarthy only raised additional questions, including how Rep. Swalwell could be re-appointed to the Committee on Homeland Security one month after this briefing. At this time, no information or justification for this assignment has been provided to the Committee on Homeland Security. Such a briefing is necessary, because each Committee is responsible for protecting the classified information in its care.

As you have previously stated, the CCP "is engaged in a highly sophisticated malign foreign influence campaign, and its methods include bribery, blackmail, and covert deals". We cannot overlook the CCP's successful attempts to gain access and influence within federal, state, and local governments. Given these injurious efforts to target a Member of the Committee, it is

¹ Exclusive: Suspected Chinese spy targeted California politicians. (2020, December 8). Axios Media. https://www.axios.com/china-spy-california-politicians-9d2dfb99-f839-4e00-8bd8-59dec0daf589.html

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imperative that the House Committee on Homeland Security receive a classified briefed detailing Rep. Swalwell's relationship with Fang and any potential exposure of classified information. We must ensure the Committee can safeguard Top Secret information and make an informed decision regarding Rep. Swalwell's future access to classified information. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important request.

Sincerely,

Wan Bishop

DAN BISHOP

Member of Congress

CLAY HIGGINS

Member of Congress

JEFF VAN DREW Member of Congress

MARIANNETTE MILIER-MEEKS
Member of Congress

ANDREW S. CLYDE Member of Congress

JAKE LaTURNER
Member of Congress

AUGUST PFLUGER Member of Congress JOHN KATKO Member of Congress

MICHAEL GUEST Member of Congress

RALPH NORMAN Member of Congress

DIANA HARSHBARGER Member of Congress

CARLOS GIMENEZ
Member of Congress

KAT CAMMACK Member of Congress

ANDREW GARBARINO Member of Congress